India be not permitted until a complete and detailed discussion with the Bar and (c) that the Advocates Act be not amended without consultation with the Bar, which have been accepted by the Government. The strike, however, continued due to the episode of lathicharge on the agitating lawyers by police on 24-02-2000. The lawyers further demanded an inquiry by a commission headed by a sitting Judge of Supreme Court and termination of erring police officials. A Commission of Inquiry consisting of Hon'ble Shri Justice C.T. Nanavati, a retired judge of Supreme Court of India, has been appointed by the Government.

(c) and (d) Information is being collected from the Supreme Court, various High Courts and Subordinate courts and will be laid on the table of the house.

Double Laning of NH-44

3924. SHRI KHAGEN DAS : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) Whether government have received any proposal from the State Government for doubling of the National Highway No. 44 in Tripura;

(b) if so, by when the double laning work would be undertaken; and

(c) if there is no such plan, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) (a) to (c) The State Government is not concerned as NH 44 in Tripura has been entrusted to Border Roads Organisation who have forwarded a proposal for widening of the National Highway to 2 lane. The same has been accepted in principle. The work will be taken up in phases depending upon availability of funds, *inter-se* priority, traffic volume etc. As such, the date by which the widening work would be undertaken cannot be indicated.

Amendment in Central Motor Vehicles Rule, 1989

3925. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT : Will the Minister of SUREACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that State Government of Gujarat has proposed for the exemption from getting prototype certificate to minitractors which is required under rule, 126 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989;

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon; and

(c) whether Government are considering to grant such exemption in respect of State's request ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal of Government of Gujarat was not acceded to.

(c) No, Sir.

Allocation of funds to Assam for road projects

3926. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of SUREACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) The details of funds allocated to Assam Government for construction of roads during the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the details of achievements in respect of road projects as reported by the State Government during this period; and

(c) Whether Government have allocated funds in the Ninth Five Year plan and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) The funds allocated to Assam Government for construction of roads during the last five years are as under :—

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Amount allocated
1995-96	1650.00
1996-97	1212.00
1997-98	1821.00
1998-99	2600.00
1999-2000	4186.83